

# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

16/271	Reading		418
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**Town:** Reading

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)

## Photograph



**Address:** 65 Minot Street

**Historic Name:** Raymond & Margaret Gardner House

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** 1950

**Source:** water department records

**Style/Form:** Cape Cod

**Architect/Builder:** Wakefield Construction Co.

## Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: wood shingle

Roof: asphalt shingle

## Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

garage

## Major Alterations (*with dates*):

date unknown – front shed dormer, rear roof slope raised

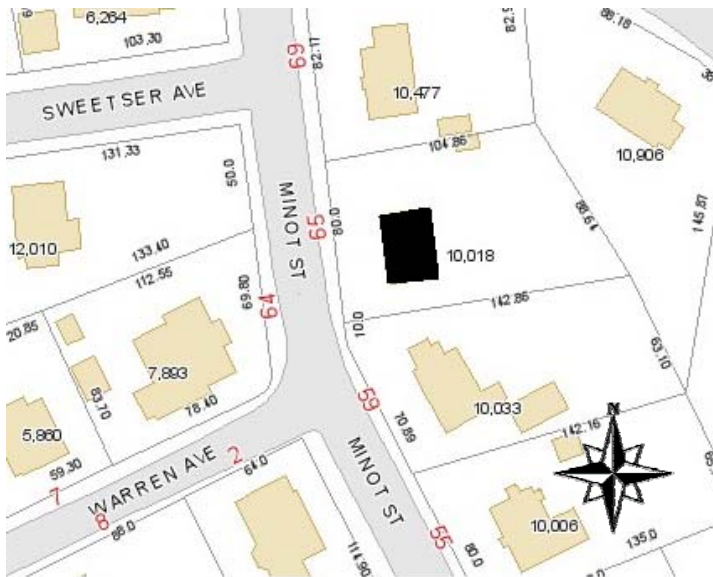
**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no | x | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 0.23 acre

**Setting:** mixed residential neighborhood

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Reading Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): December 2009

**RECEIVED**  
**AUG 20 2010**  
**MASS. HIST. COMM.**

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

READING

65 Minot Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This Cape Cod dwelling is notable for the fact that the footprint of the 34' x 22' structure is unchanged by addition. The house is set on a concrete foundation and is sheathed in wood shingles. The asphalt-shingled roof is without overhanging eaves. A shed dormer has been added to the front slope while the rear slope has been raised for additional headroom, an alteration which is common to Capes. On one side of the center entrance with six-panel door is a pair of 6/1 windows; on the other is a tripartite picture window. An exterior brick chimney rises along the south elevation and there is a small vertical window adjacent to the fireplace. The back entrance on the south side has a glass-and-panel door and is fronted by a simple wooden platform and stairs.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is one of a handful of Cape Cod style houses constructed on the east side of Minot Street and adjacent Crosby Road by the Wakefield Construction Company in 1950. It is lot 5 on the Plan of Lots surveyed for Ralph Crosby. No additional information was found concerning the builders. A company with a similar name, the Wakefield Building and Construction Company, is known to have built a number of houses in Reading including 64 Grand Street (1935).

This is just one of the many clusters of Cape Cod style houses which appeared throughout Reading during the post-World War II building boom. The original owners were Raymond and Margaret Gardner, who continue to own the house today.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Reading Directories, various years.

Reading 350<sup>th</sup> Book Committee. *At Wood End – Reading, Massachusetts 1644-1994, A Pictorial History*, 1994.

Town of Reading. List of Persons Twenty Years of Age and Over. Compiled by the Board of Registrars, Reading, Massachusetts, 1907-1979. (No women listed until 1924).

Town of Reading. Valuation of Real and Personal Estates, various dates.

Town of Reading, Water Department Records, 1891-present.